

legislation would be, ensuring that Americans from all over the country, including doctors, healthcare organizations, providers, insurance companies, average citizens could weigh in.

Now in their rush to pass their repeal, Republicans are doing everything they said was wrong and much more. Republicans are terrified that the American people will find out what is in this bill. The problem they have is a lot of their Members have found out what is in this bill, and they don't like it. Hardly any newspaper in America likes it. We think the public is thinking they are moving too fast and are going to hurt them. They are afraid, however, of having to face angry constituents who will see that this bill will take healthcare coverage away from 20 million Americans and cause out-of-pocket costs to go up for millions more. This bill could destabilize even the employer-based insurance market. That is people who know nothing about the exchange, but they have insurance through their employer. This bill will destabilize their insurance as well.

The point is, Mr. Speaker, we don't know for sure how bad it is. We know it is bad, and that is information we ought to have before being asked to vote on the floor or in committee on such consequential legislation. My Republican friends say, well, we will have a CBO score by the time we consider it on the floor. But they don't want that information out for very long because it is going to be very negative.

Democrats will continue, Mr. Speaker, to do everything in our power to slow down this process and throw back the curtain Republicans have pulled over this bill and this process in an attempt to hide the details of their dangerous plan from the American people. We are ready, as I said, to turn the lights out in this Chamber before we let the Republican repeal bill turn the lights out on coverage and care for millions of our fellow Americans. I do not yield my conviction to oppose this bill as strongly, as long as I possibly can.

PHILANDER SMITH COLLEGE CELEBRATES THE 140TH ANNIVERSARY OF ITS FOUNDING

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. HILL) for 5 minutes.

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, the distinguished minority leader from Maryland certainly knows my great affection for him and his leadership of the opposition. We are the opposition here. I have to say that should he not have access to C-SPAN, like all of us, we invite him to tune in to C-SPAN and the Committee on Ways and Means and the Committee on Energy and Commerce and enjoy this long markup, Mr. Leader, and it is quite the contrary.

Mr. HOYER. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. HILL. I yield to the gentleman from Maryland.

Mr. HOYER. It may not be true of your constituents, but most of my constituents were asleep between 12 and 6 this morning.

Mr. HILL. I thank the gentleman. Reclaiming my time, I recognize that. But the American people, Mr. Leader, want us to work to correct the deficiencies in the Affordable Care Act, to repeal and replace it, make it better for the American people, to lower premiums, give more access, let people choose the plan they want.

I would remind the leader that there was no C-SPAN camera in Ms. PELOSI's office when the original Affordable Care Act was cobbled together over Christmas break, certainly not in the light of the American people.

So I urge people who are watching C-SPAN today, go to readthebill.gop, understand what is going on to repair and replace the Affordable Care Act, engage with your Member of Congress, and let's make health care available for all of our citizens. Let's make it truly affordable. Let's take care of the least of these, but let's do it in a patient-centered, market-based approach.

Mr. Speaker, today I come to the House floor to honor my friends at Philander Smith College in Little Rock. They celebrate their Founder's Day, commemorating the 140th anniversary of their founding in 1877. Philander Smith is a Historically Black College and an early higher education institution built and created by former African-American slaves, the first such institution west of the Mississippi River.

Graduating thousands of students over its 140-year legacy, the college is particularly important to Arkansas' history, economy, and higher education community. Currently, approximately 760 students are enrolled at Philander Smith, and the college continues to play an integral role in preparing predominantly minority and low-income students for careers and employment in Arkansas and throughout our country. I always enjoy my opportunities to be on campus, engaging with their bright, dedicated young minds.

The college's president, Dr. Roderick Smothers, recently joined his HBCU colleagues here in Washington to meet with the White House and leadership in Congress and talk about the challenges facing our Historically Black Colleges and their students. I appreciate Dr. Smothers' dedication to his students and their education at Philander Smith. I am proud to represent such a historic and valuable institution.

I congratulate Philander Smith on its 140th anniversary. I look forward to many more decades of their success.

HATE CRIMES IN AMERICA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. JOHNSON) for 5 minutes.

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, since November's election, it seems that there have been a rise in incidents

of hate crimes in this country. This wave of hate crimes has spread fear and anxiety in communities of different faiths, ethnicities, and cultures across this country. On Tuesday, multiple Jewish community centers, schools, and organizations across the Nation, including in Atlanta, received anonymous bomb threats. This follows a wave of over 120 threats against Jewish community centers across America as well as the senseless desecration of graves at Jewish cemeteries country-wide.

I suspect, Mr. Speaker, that these are not unrelated incidents of juvenile delinquents. This is rank, organized anti-Semitic activity. It is systematic and organized activity meant to terrorize Jews in America. This comes at a time when Islamophobia is taking root and spreading across America. Mosques are being burned to the ground, Muslim children are being bullied at school, and Muslim women are subjected to having attackers snatching their hijabs from their heads as they walk the streets.

The President's Muslim ban is payback on the pledge he made to his supporters during the campaign. Meanwhile, in February, a 32-year-old Indian man was shot and killed, another was wounded, and a third man who intervened was shot and wounded by a gunman shouting "Get out of my country."

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Again, on March 3, a Sikh man was shot in Seattle by an attacker yelling, "Go back to your country." At that time, the attacker had a mask on. During these incidents, our President has remained uncharacteristically silent on these attacks. His silence comes after his anti-Mexican, anti-Muslim, and anti-Obama campaign sparked American White nationalists to feel emboldened.

This is a dangerous and slippery slope that we are on, ladies and gentlemen. It must end, and it must end now. As Dr. King once said: "Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere." We must protect all communities that have come under assault.

Today I introduce the Reaffirming DHS' Commitment to Countering All Forms of Violent Extremism Act of 2017 to ensure that countering violent extremism funds within the Department of Homeland Security are used to tackle the rise of rightwing extremism, which threatens the safety of us all here in America.

HEALTH CARE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. BARR) for 5 minutes.

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, ObamaCare is collapsing. It is hurting more people than it is helping. It is forcing Americans to buy insurance they don't like, they don't need, and cannot afford. Premiums have increased by an average of 25 percent this year. Deductibles